

### **Economic Outlook Survey**

October 2021

### Methodology

The survey was conducted online through the InputSask business insight platform in partnership with the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

This report provides the key findings from a sample of 100 business leaders in October 2021. Business members were invited to participate through email by the Saskatchewan Chamber of Commerce.

The data were weighted according to business distribution by region to ensure a representative sample of Saskatchewan's business community. Totals may not add up to 100 due to rounding.

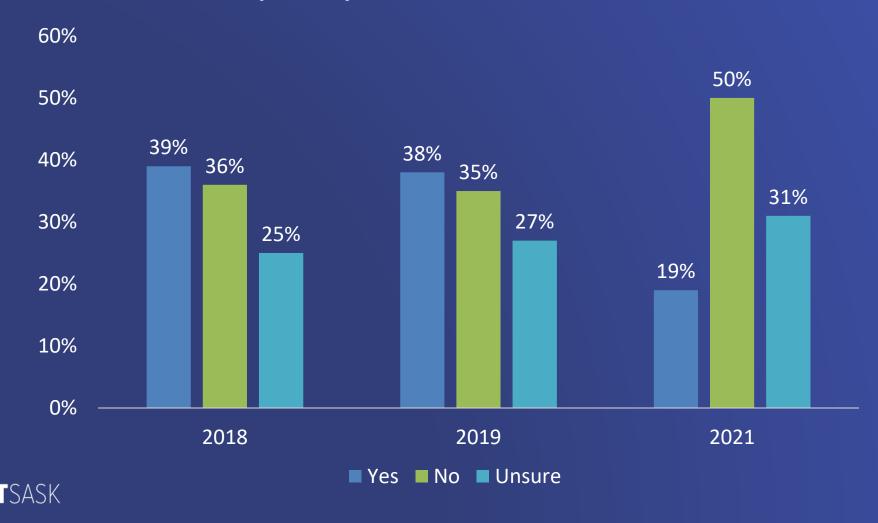
2020 data is not included for trending purposes because of the dramatic disruption of the COVID-19 pandemic.

### **Key Highlights**

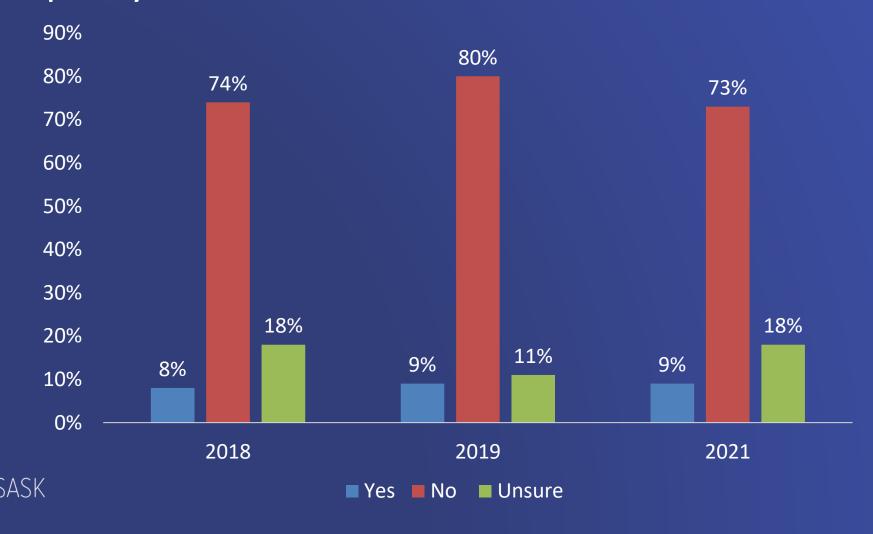
- 1. Only 19% of respondents believe the provincial government created a more competitive and attractive environment for businesses since 2019, down from 35%.
- 2. 53% of respondents felt the state of the Saskatchewan economy got worse or much worse since 2019. 43% felt the same way about the state of their own business.
- 3. Businesses are optimistic for next year, 46% expect the Saskatchewan economy to get better or much better, while 52% have the same outlook for their business.
- 4. The local economy was identified as the most import issue impacting a business's efficiency, profitability, productivity and stability, followed by the finding/retaining of staff.



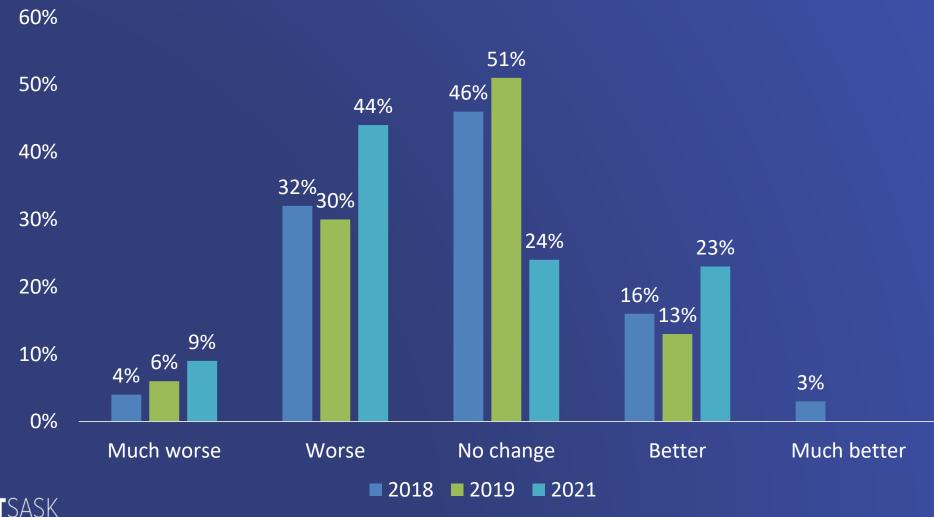
Do you believe the <u>provincial</u> government has been creating a more competitive and attractive environment for businesses over the past year?



Do you believe the <u>federal</u> government has been creating a more competitive and attractive environment for businesses over the past year?

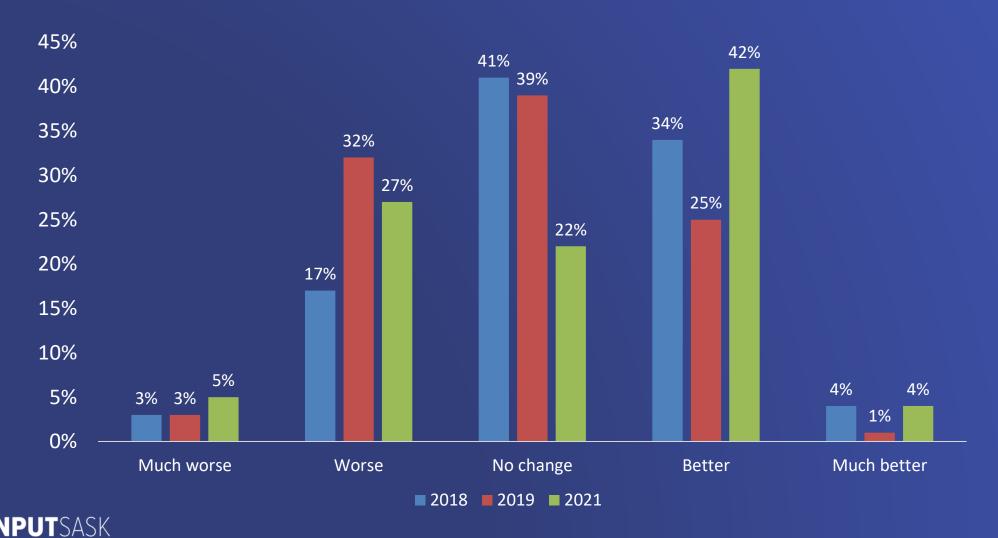


# Did the state of the Saskatchewan economy get better or worse in the <u>past</u> year?

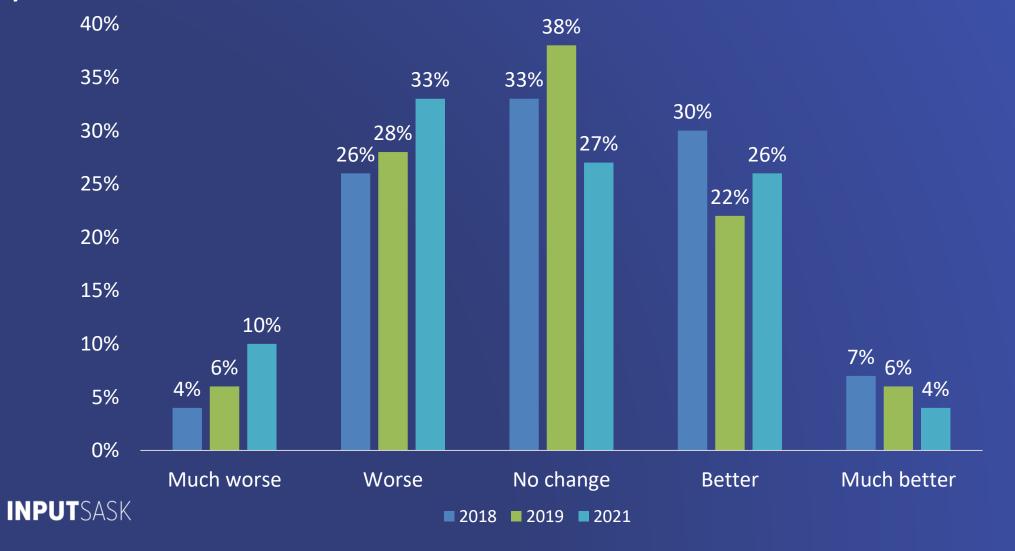




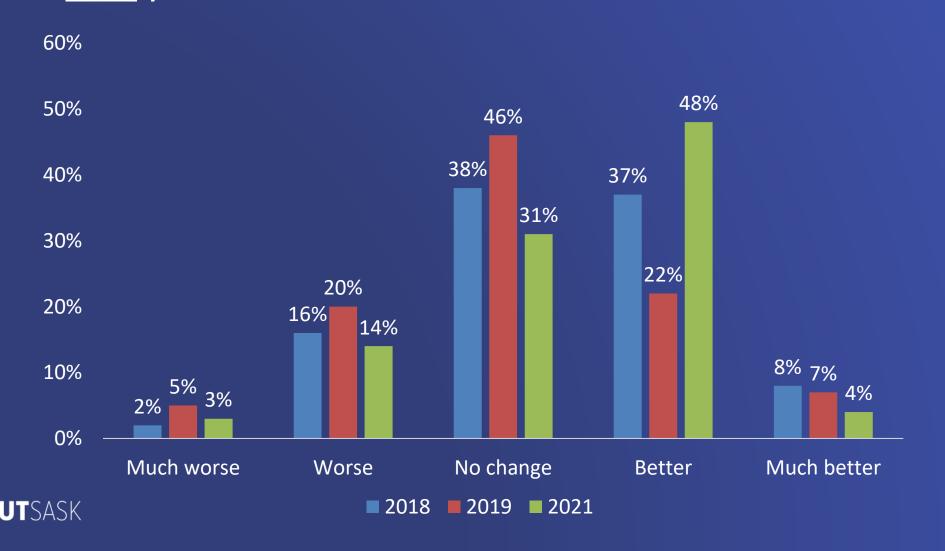
# Do you expect the state of the Saskatchewan economy to get better or worse in the upcoming year?



# Did the state of your own business get better or worse in the <u>past</u> year?

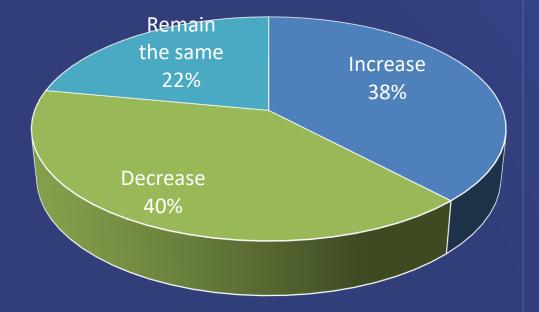


# Do you expect the state of your own business to get better or worse <u>next</u> year?

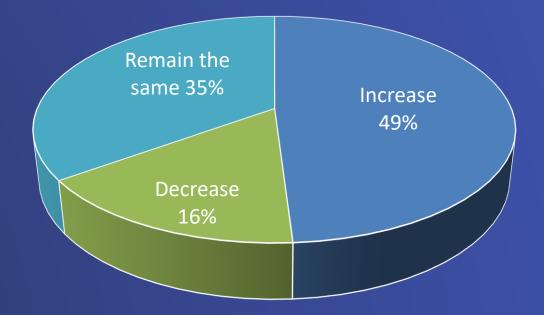


#### Business Revenues

In the <u>past</u> year, did your business revenue:



In the coming year, do you expect your business revenue to:





#### **Business Sales**

In the past year, did your business' sales:

	Increase	Decrease	Remain the same	Not applicable
Provincially	36%	32%	26%	6%
Nationally	18%	12%	21%	49%
Internationally	16%	9%	8%	67%

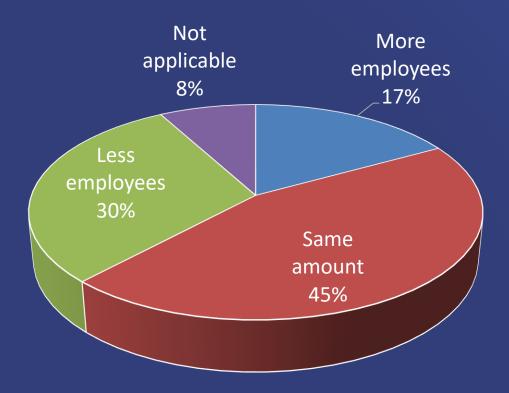
#### What are your business' sales predictions for the upcoming year:

	Increase	Decrease	Remain the same	Not applicable
Provincially	46%	14%	35%	5%
Nationally	26%	5%	20%	49%
Internationally	24%	3%	7%	66%

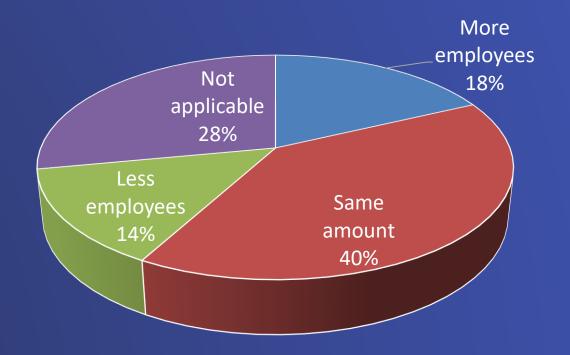


## Recent Business Staffing In the past year, how did your business's staff change?

#### Full-time employee:



#### Part-time employees:

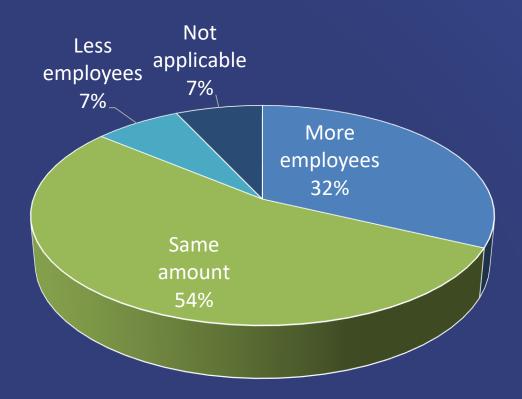




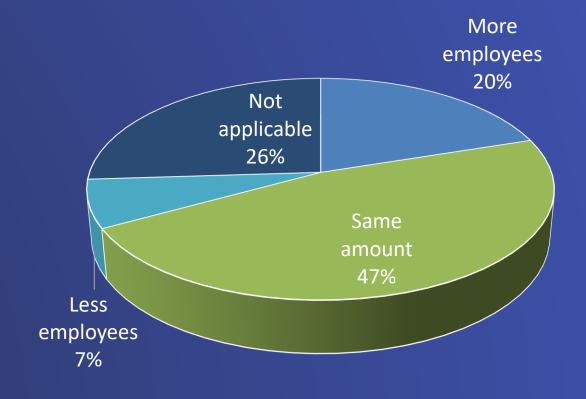
#### **Future Business Staffing**

In the <u>upcoming</u> year, what are you predicting for changes to your business's staff?

#### Full-time employees:

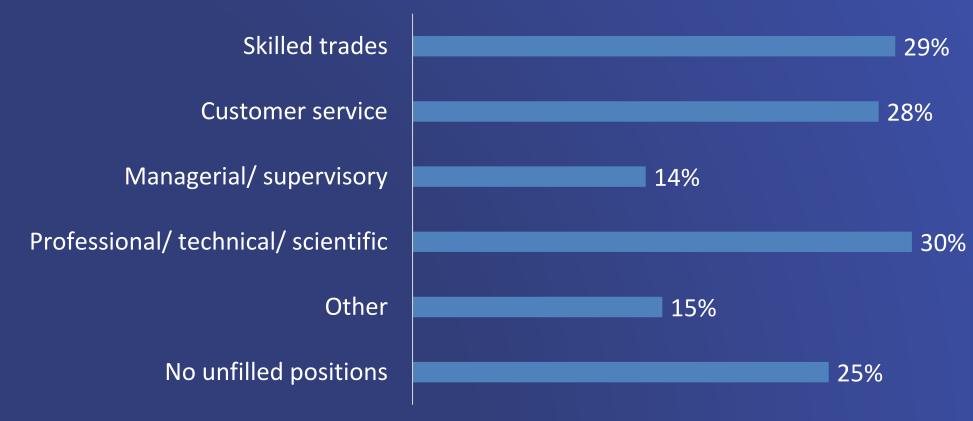


#### Part-time employees:



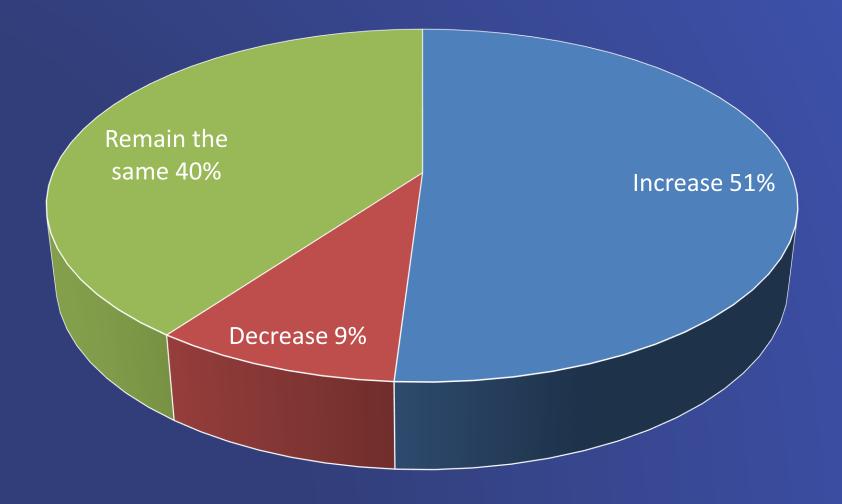


If you had vacant positions on your staff that went unfilled due to a shortage of qualified workers, what category of work were they classified as? Check all that apply.





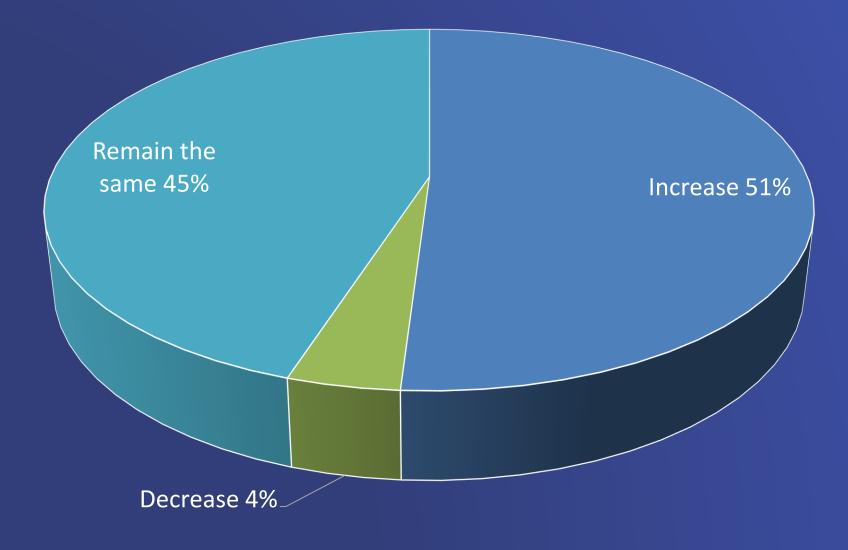
# Business Wages Did your wages over the past year:





### **Business Wages**

For the <u>upcoming</u> year, do you predict that your wages will:





### Rank the level of importance these issues have on your business's efficiency, profitability, productivity and stability.

	Most Important	Somewhat Important	Least Important
Local economy	68%	25%	7%
Finding/retaining staff	66%	26%	8%
Building market share – sales	40%	40%	20%
Training	38%	50%	12%
Personal taxation	32%	41%	28%
Property taxation	31%	41%	29%
Paper burden, regulatory regime	29%	43%	28%
Corporate taxation	28%	43%	29%
International markets	19%	23%	58%
Availability of financing	16%	31%	54%

